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Leaving Monday

NSA Delegates Near Departure

CPYRGHT

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Emerald Editor

STATINTL

At 6 a.m. Monday morning a four-man delegation from the ASUO starts a trip toward a controversy.

The group will be heading for the 20th annual National Student Association (NSA) Congress in Washington, D.C.

Comprising the delegation are Scott Farleigh, ASUO president, Mike Donahue, vice-president, Bob Bartlett of the Forum Committee, and Jim Poplack, University NSA co-ordinator.

The agenda for the Congress reads like something from a book of major and minor crises of the 1960's.

The opening plenary discussion will concern "Secrecy in a Free Society: the CIA." From then on topics center on such items as "Student Power in Education Reform" the draft, drugs, "Alternatives to a Liberal Consensus."

Issues for seminar topics include the War on Poverty, Eastern Europe, Viet Nam, Rhodesia, Emerging Democratic Forces in Spain, "Students: Servants in Training?" New Directions in the Civil Rights Movement, "Grades and their Alternatives," "Educational Responsibility of Students," "The Movement vs. Hippies," "Student Stress," "Student Power via Student Government" and "Student Labor."

PROGRAM WORKSHOPS

Program workshops concerning these and other areas will also be conducted. These include involvement with course evaluations, tutoring, film and concert programming, arts festivals, roles of the press, commuter colleges, discount systems on campus, student discipline and welfare, freshman orientation, campus judiciary, foreign students, the 18-year-old vote, and free higher education.

Farleigh said that in light of the number of sessions the ASUO delegation plans to be selective and attend those which cover areas where the University needs information.

He stressed that the number one reason for attending the Congress was to obtain ideas. The president added that although there is no question the University is a leader in such areas as the conduct program and academic freedom, there are other areas where we need improvements.

Donahue said the Congress members will devote much of their attention to making decisions on major issues.

CIA CONTROVERSY

One of the primary issues facing the group will be whether the NSA should continue its programs abroad. Farleigh said that the past controversy with the CIA and its involvement with the NSA much of the student organization's integrity had been crippled abroad.

Donahue said the ASUO would be introducing legislation before the congress concerning the flag desecration bill (H.R. 10480) pending before the Congress.

He said the delegation will present information against the bill including material from the U.S. Attorney General's office and the

American Civil Liberties Union and letters from Senators Wayne Morse and Mark Hatfield, and Congressmen William Ryan and John Dellenback.

In an earlier article for the Emerald, Donahue said he considered the bill "unconstitutional, an abridgement of the First Amendment protection of freedom of expression."

Also Donahue said the ASUO delegation would strive to have the members of the Congress endorse presidential candidates for both parties. Personally Donahue said he would act to have Senator Hatfield named the Republican candidate.

Asked if he had any preferences, Farleigh said he favored New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller in the GOP side and New York Senator Robert F. Kennedy on the Democratic slate.

Both the president and vice-president said they anticipated a possible referendum next year on the question of University involvement with the NSA. In light of this they said it was very important that the delegation maintain a constant effort to make this Congress really meaningful to the University.

To implement whatever programs or ideas they may obtain at the Congress, Farleigh has set up an NSA co-ordinating organization within the executive branch of the ASUO. Poplack, head of this agency, will be in charge of action resulting from the NSA.

The Congress officially opens on August 11 and ends on August 27.